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P.O. Box 2965 (333 SW 1st Avenue) ▼ Portland, Oregon 97208 ▼ <http://www.blm.gov/or>

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Pam Robbins (503) 808-6306
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Public Advisors Sought for East Cascade Resource Councils

PORTLAND – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking applicants for positions on Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) in central and eastern Oregon. These RACs advise and recommend management strategies for federal lands east of the Cascade Range administered by the BLM and the US Forest Service. The John Day-Snake RAC and the Southeast Oregon RAC each have six openings. BLM Oregon State Director Ed Shepard said, “I cannot emphasize strongly enough what effective partners the RACs have been in helping resolve public land issues that affect quality of life in the Northwest.” Nominations for these key advisors will be accepted through **April 2, 2007**.

The Federal Advisory Committee Act requires RACs to be balanced and represent the variety of interests concerned with public land management. **Vacancies and expired terms this year include representatives of: environmental groups, commercial timber, public-at-large, local elected official, archaeological and/or historical interests, commercial recreation and/or off-highway vehicle (OHV) users, and conservation interests.**

Individuals may nominate themselves or others, and current members whose terms expire in September may be renominated. Candidates must reside in the State where the council has jurisdiction. For a nomination form or additional information, please contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, (pam_robbins@or.blm.gov), P.O. Box 2965 Portland, Oregon, (503) 808-6306, or your local BLM District Office.

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

- - Fact sheet attached - -



RAC FACT SHEET

The RACs are an integral part of land management for federal agencies. Local RACs provide valuable advice on developing management plans and alternatives. Their expertise helps to refine project initiatives for issues as varied as grazing, forest health, land exchanges, and recreation management.

Council members are unpaid, but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. RACs usually meet quarterly within their geographic area. Appointees serve a three year term. Current recruitment and specific RAC information follows:

John Day-Snake RAC

Position

Local elected official
Historical and/or archaeological interests
Public-at-Large
Environmental organizations
Commercial recreation and/or OHV
Commercial timber *

Geographic area

Resources located in whole or in part within the Prineville, Vale, and Spokane Districts of the BLM; the Umatilla, Wallowa Whitman, Malheur, and Ochoco National Forests; and the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area

Southeast Oregon RAC

Position

Commercial timber
Environmental organizations
Historical and/or archaeological interests
Local elected official
Local Indian tribes
Public-at-large +

Geographic area

resources located in whole or in part within the Vale, Burns, and Lakeview Districts of the BLM and the Fremont, and Malheur National Forests

Nominations must include a completed background information nomination form, letter(s) of reference from the interest category to be represented, and any other information that demonstrates the nominee's qualifications. Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the Council's geographic area. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. Completed application packets should be sent to Pam Robbins, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

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* Term expires in 2008 on John Day-Snake

+ Term expires in 2009 on Southeast Oregon

